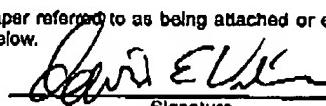


CASE 4-33182A

**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

David E Wildman  
Type or print name

  
Signature

January 28, 2004  
Date

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1614

MICHAEL WYLLIE

Examiner: Jones, Dwayne C.

APPLICATION NO: 09/778,290

FILED: FEBRUARY 7, 2001

FOR: PHARMACEUTICAL COMBINATIONS

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Sir:

The Office Action of July 28, 2003 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on October 28, 2003. A three-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis in the amount of \$950 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis.

Respectfully submitted,



David E. Wildman  
Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No. 40,226  
Phone No. (862) 778-7964

Novartis  
Corporate Intellectual Property  
One Health Plaza, Building 430  
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date: January 28, 2004